

## TAKE NOTES

### Literary Analysis

Which element of **medieval romances** does the underlined passage illustrate? Circle the letter of the best answer below.

- (a) unusual settings
- (b) supernatural events
- (c) beautiful ladies in need of help
- (d) battles or contests

### Reading Strategy

**Summarize**, or retell briefly in your own words, what happens in the bracketed passage.

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Sir Bedivere goes again to the lake. He still cannot throw the sword in. Again he returns to Arthur and pretends he has thrown it in. Again Arthur knows he is lying. Arthur begs Bedivere to obey him.



Then Sir Bedivere departed and went to the sword and lightly took it up, and so he went to the water's side; and there he bound the girdle<sup>16</sup> about the hilts, and threw the sword as far into the water as he might. And there came an arm and an hand above the water and took it and clutched it, and shook it thrice<sup>17</sup> and brandished; and then vanished away the hand with the sword into the water. So Sir Bedivere came again to the King and told him what he saw.

"Alas," said the King, "help me hence,<sup>18</sup> for I dread me<sup>19</sup> I have tarried overlong."

Then Sir Bedivere took the King upon his back and so went with him to that water's side. And when they were at the water's side, even fast<sup>20</sup> by the bank floated a little barge with many fair ladies in it; and among them all was a queen; and all they had black hoods, and all they wept and shrieked when they saw King Arthur.

### Vocabulary Development

**brandished** (BRAN disht) *v.* waved in a threatening way

**tarried** (TAR eed) *v.* waited; lingered

**bank** (BANK) *n.* the land alongside a lake or river

**barge** (BAHRJ) *n.* a flat-bottomed boat

**fair** (FAYR) *adj.* pretty; nice looking

16. **girdle** (GER duhl) *n.* the sash or belt used to strap the sword around the hips of the person wearing it.

17. **thrice** (THRIS) *adv.* three times.

18. **hence** from here.

19. **dread** (DRED) **me** fear.

20. **fast** close.